



ASSEMBLYMEMBER
NICOLE PARRA
Representing the 30th Assembly District



Parra Notes

October 31, 2007

Hello Friends,

I was inspired and thrilled to join thousands of men and women at the **California Governor and First Lady's Conference on Women** this year. First Lady Maria Shriver continued her tradition of hosting the annual non-partisan conference and celebrating "architects of change" and their remarkable lives and legacies.

Created by First Lady Shriver in 2004, the "Minerva Awards" have become the country's most prestigious awards for women. Named for the Roman goddess Minerva, who graces the California State Seal, the awards annually honor remarkable women who, in the spirit of Minerva, changed the state and nation with their courage, strength and wisdom. This year, the First Lady paid tribute to women who are building a legacy and passing it on to others.

The 2007 Minerva Awards will be granted to:

- **Sweet Alice Harris**, *Founder and Executive Director of Parents of Watts, Los Angeles, California*
- **Commander Maureen Pennington**, *Senior Nurse Executive, United States Naval Medical Center, San Diego, California*
- **Christy Porter**, *Founder and Executive Director of Hidden Harvest, Coachella Valley, California*
- **Honorable Nancy Pelosi**, *Speaker of the House of Representatives, San Francisco, California*

Under the leadership of California First Lady Maria Shriver, the Women's Conference has grown from a California government initiative for working professionals into a life-changing experience and national network of women from all walks of life, backgrounds and perspectives. Its thriving online community and year round programs make the Women's Conference an ongoing source of support, inspiration and motivation for the tens of thousands it has touched. For more information, visit: www.californiawomen.org.

Look for the next edition of the Parra Notes November 30...

What's Happening in Sacramento

Today, the Assembly Health Committee held an **Informational Hearing** on the Governor's revised health care reform proposal. **As proposed by Governor Schwarzenegger, the "Health Care Security and Cost Reduction Act"** would require, effective 2010, every California resident to obtain health coverage for themselves and their dependents that meets a minimum level of coverage. Next year promises to be a very detailed and passionate debate on health care, as all parties and stakeholders have committed to reforming the current health care situation. www.assembly.ca.gov/acs/newcomframeset.asp?committee=10

My Legislative Highlights

I was honored recently with the "Legislative Leadership" Award by the California Building Industry Association (CBIA). The award was presented at the CBIA's Annual Meeting and Commercial Real Estate Summit. To receive this prestigious award from the California Building Industry Association is truly an honor. The CBIA is the leading force in providing affordable housing to communities throughout the Central Valley and California. They have been at the forefront of much of our State's economic growth and vitality.

The CBIA is a statewide trade association representing more than 6,700 companies including homebuilders, trade contractors, architects, engineers, designers, suppliers, and other industry professionals. According to a recent study, the homebuilding industry contributes more than \$60 billion a year to the state's economy and generates 525,000 jobs. For more information, visit www.cbia.org.

Constituents Visit Sacramento

I am pleased to announce that the **PCL Industrial Services of Bakersfield** has received a \$172,800 job training grant from the California Employment Training Panel. This grant will enable PCL to update the skills of its workforce.

The California Office of Traffic Safety has announced the award of grants in the 30th Assembly District to implement results-driven programs designed to impact public safety. The following programs received grants: **1) "Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)" in Arvin; 2) "Avoid the 5 DUI Campaign" in Kings County; 3) "Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP)" in Shafter; and 4) "Avoid the 14 DUI Campaign" in Kern County.**

In the District

In **Kings County**, I presented a resolution honoring **Aletha Ware of Kettleman City** at her birthday party. Aletha has been a long time civic leader in Kettleman City, having served for over

two decades on various boards and organizations in her quest to provide the children and citizens of Kettleman City the best quality of life possible.

In **Kern County**, I spoke at to the **National Federation of Independent Businesses in Bakersfield**. We discussed the current climate for small businesses in California and their contribution to our economy. I was also honored to speak at a farewell dinner for **Father Rob Wenzinger**. Father Rob is my priest at **Saint Joseph's Parish in Bakersfield** and has been both a family friend and a pillar in the community for many years. His dedication and service will always be appreciated by so many.

In **Fresno County**, I joined many motivated and energized activists at the **Fresno Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA)** Women's Conference. It was empowering to be around so many people dedicated and involved in our political process. I also enjoyed an opportunity to meet with **Mexican Consul Martha Elvia Rosas and Deputy Consul Selene Barcelo** to discuss the special relationship enjoyed between Mexico and California, and the Central Valley in particular.

Finally, I want to wish everybody a frightfully terrific Halloween! Be safe and smart while enjoying a fun night of tricks and treats.

Operation Gobble

Once again, I will be conducting **Operation Gobble**, an effort to feed some of the neediest families in the 30th Assembly District during the Thanksgiving holiday. Operation Gobble has long been a tradition of providing a nutritious meal to families during the holiday season. Each year I strive to make Operation Gobble bigger and better by reaching out to more constituents and giving away more turkeys throughout the 30th Assembly District which includes Fresno, Kern, Kings, and Tulare counties. **This year I am proud to be joined by former Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante**, who began this tradition while in the State Assembly.

I am requesting your financial support in helping distribute turkey baskets. I am also pleased to share with you that Encourage Tomorrow, a non-profit organization, will be our fiscal agent for Operation Gobble. **Your check can be made to Encourage Tomorrow**, with Operation Gobble 2007 listed in the memo line. Their Federal Tax ID number is 91-1848251 and their mailing address is 1177 E. Shaw Ave. Suite 116, Fresno, CA 93710. Ms. Suzanne Moreno, the President and CEO of Encourage Tomorrow can assist you with any fiscal matters or questions at (559) 233-2880.

I am also asking you to join me and Cruz Bustamante at the following distribution points for Operation Gobble.

- November 20 from 10:00am to 11am at Fresno Catholic Charities located on 149 N. Fulton Street in **Fresno**.
- November 20 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm at 11899 Shaw Place in **Hanford**.
- November 21 from 10:00am to 11am at the Kern County Food Bank located on 1825 Felize Drive in **Bakersfield**.

I thank you in advance for your commitment in making Operation Gobble a reality. It is my hope that the turkeys we distribute through Operation Gobble will brighten the Thanksgiving holiday for

hundreds of families. If you should have any questions, please contact my staff, **Richard Valle**, at (559) 585-7170.

Meeting Requests

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my **Executive Secretary Rozanne Jones** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Rozanne.Jones@asm.ca.gov

Internships

I am accepting applications for the internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the **30th Assembly District**, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the **Central Valley**. Applications can be found by going to: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Richard Valle** at (559) 585-7170 or by e-mail at: Richard.Valle@asm.ca.gov

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Nerissa Robinson** at (661) 334-3745 or by e-mail at: Nerissa.Robinson@asm.ca.gov

For Sacramento office internships contact **Brandon Sanders** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at: Brandon.Sanders@asm.ca.gov

Bakersfield Office:

601 24th St.,
Suite A
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Phone: (661) 334-3745
Fax: (661) 334-3796

Hanford Office:

321 N. Douty St.,
Suite B
Hanford, CA 93230
Phone: (559) 585-7170
Fax: (559) 585-7175

Capitol Office:

State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249
Phone: (916) 319-2030
Fax: (916) 319-2130

Email: Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov

Web Site: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

If you wish to no longer receive email notifications please click the following link to [UNSUBSCRIBE](#)
If you wish to receive email updates in the future please click the following link to [SUBSCRIBE](#)